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Re: 06-181 - Comment

I want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else. Closed captions make television programs accessible to me and my family and friends who are deaf or hard of hearing. Closed captioning is an essential part of any television program.

We are talking about equal access. People who can hear enjoy all forms of television programs and we must have the same rights.

The law requiring closed captioning was passed in 1996. The FCC established closed captioning rules in 1998. The rules required closed captioning to be increased gradually over 8 years. Since January 2006, 100% of all new television programs must be captioned, with some exceptions. This program should not be an exception. And, must never there be an exception.

Today, closed captions are not too difficult or too expensive. No program should be on television without closed captions! If they can afford the cost of producing television programming, then they can afford the cost of closed captions.

I cannot watch television programs without closed captions. With closed captions, I get the program information and the message that the program producer cares about me.

The FCC must support deaf and hard of hearing consumers and must enforce the closed captioning rules! After all, my tax dollars are at stake when FCC does not support us.

Please do not deny the deaf and hard of hearing consumers their rights to equal access.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Philip N. Moos